

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, wherein:

a) Y is selected from the group consisting of: $-\text{CO}_2\text{H}$, $-\text{NHOH}$, $-\text{NO}_2$, $-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{NHSO}_2\text{J}$ and $-\text{P}(=\text{O})(\text{OH})(\text{OJ})$, wherein J is selected from the group consisting of: hydrogen, C_1 - C_6 straight chain alkyl, C_3 - C_6 branched alkyl, C_2 - C_6 alkenyl, C_3 - C_6 branched alkenyl, and aryl;

b) A is selected from the group consisting of: C, CH, C_1 - C_5 alkyl, C_2 - C_5 alkenyl, C_2 - C_5 alkynyl, and C_1 - C_5 alkoyl chain, each having 0-2 substituents which are selected independently from the group consisting of:

1) K, where K is selected from the group consisting of: C_1 - C_6 straight alkyl, C_2 - C_6 straight alkenyl, C_1 - C_6 straight alkoyl, C_3 - C_6 branched alkyl, C_3 - C_6 branched alkenyl, and C_4 - C_6 branched alkoyl, K having 0-2 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: bromo, chloro, epoxy and acetoxy;

2) an aryl group selected from the group consisting of: a 1-2 ring carbocycle, wherein the aryl group contains 0-2 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: $-\text{CH}_2\text{L}$ and $-\text{COCH}_2\text{L}$ where L is independently selected from the group consisting of: bromo, chloro, epoxy and acetoxy; and

3) $-\text{NH}-\text{M}$, wherein M is selected from the group consisting of: hydrogen, C_1 - C_4 alkyl, C_2 - C_4 alkenyl, C_1 - C_4 alkoyl, C_3 - C_4 branched alkyl, C_3 - C_4 branched alkenyl, and C_4 branched alkoyl;

c) X is selected from the group consisting of NR_1 , CHR_1 , CR_1 , O and S, wherein R_1 is selected from the group consisting of:

1) hydrogen;

2) K where K is selected from the group consisting of: C_1 - C_6 straight alkyl, C_2 - C_6 straight alkenyl, C_1 - C_6 straight alkoyl, C_3 - C_6 branched alkyl, C_3 - C_6 branched alkenyl, and C_4 - C_6 branched alkoyl, K having 0-2 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: bromo, chloro, epoxy and acetoxy;

3) an aryl group selected from the group consisting of a 1-2 ring carbocycle, wherein the aryl group contains 0-2 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: $-\text{CH}_2\text{L}$ and $-\text{COCH}_2\text{L}$ where L is independently selected from the group consisting of: bromo, chloro, epoxy and acetoxy;

4) a $\text{C}_5\text{-C}_9$ a-amino-w-methyl-w-adenosylcarboxylic acid attached via the w-methyl carbon;

5) a $\text{C}_5\text{-C}_9$ a-amino-w-aza-w-methyl-w-adenosylcarboxylic acid attached via the w-methyl carbon; and

6) a $\text{C}_5\text{-C}_9$ a-amino-w-thia-w-methyl-w-adenosylcarboxylic acid attached via the w-methyl carbon;

d) Z_1 and Z_2 are chosen independently from the group consisting of: $=\text{O}$, $-\text{NHR}_2$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{R}_2$, $-\text{NR}_2\text{OH}$; wherein Z_1 and Z_2 may not both be $=\text{O}$ and wherein R_2 is selected from the group consisting of:

1) hydrogen;

2) K, where K is selected from the group consisting of: $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ straight alkyl; $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_6$ straight alkenyl, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ straight alkoyl, $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_6$ branched alkyl, $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_6$ branched alkenyl, and $\text{C}_4\text{-C}_6$ branched alkoyl, K having 0-2 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: bromo, chloro, epoxy and acetoxy;

3) an aryl group selected from the group consisting of a 1-2 ring carbocycle, wherein the aryl group contains 0-2 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: $-\text{CH}_2\text{L}$ and $-\text{COCH}_2\text{L}$ where L is independently selected from the group consisting of: bromo, chloro, epoxy and acetoxy;

4) a $\text{C}_4\text{-C}_8$ a-amino-carboxylic acid attached via the w-carbon;

5) B, wherein B is selected from the group consisting of: $-\text{CO}_2\text{H}$, $-\text{NHOH}$, $-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$, $-\text{NO}_2$, $\text{OP}(=\text{O})(\text{OH})(\text{OJ})$ and $-\text{P}(=\text{O})(\text{OH})(\text{OJ})$, wherein J is selected from the group consisting of: hydrogen, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ straight alkyl, $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_6$ branched alkyl, $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_6$

alkenyl, C₃-C₆ branched alkenyl, and aryl, wherein B is optionally connected to the nitrogen via a linker selected from the group consisting of: C₁-C₂ alkyl, C₂ alkenyl, and C₁-C₂ alkoyl;

6) -D-E, wherein D is selected from the group consisting of: C₁-C₃ straight alkyl, C₃ branched alkyl, C₂-C₃ straight alkenyl, C₃ branched alkenyl, C₁-C₃ straight alkoyl, aryl and aroyl; and E is selected from the group consisting of: -(P(O)₃)_nNMP, where n is 0-2 and NMP is ribonucleotide monophosphate connected via the 5'-phosphate, 3'-phosphate or the aromatic ring of the base; -[P(=O)(OCH₃)(O)]_m-Q, where m is 0-3 and Q is a ribonucleoside connected via the ribose or the aromatic ring of the base; -[P(=O)(OH)(CH₂)]_m-Q, where m is 0-3 and Q is a ribonucleoside connected via the ribose or the aromatic ring of the base; and an aryl group containing 0-3 substituents chosen independently from the group consisting of: Cl, Br, epoxy, acetoxy, -OG, -C(=O)G, and -CO₂G, where G is independently selected from the group consisting of: C₁-C₆ straight alkyl, C₂-C₆ straight alkenyl, C₁-C₆ straight alkoyl, C₃-C₆ branched alkyl, C₃-C₆ branched alkenyl, C₄-C₆ branched alkoyl, wherein E may be attached to any point to D, and if D is alkyl or alkenyl, D may be connected at either or both ends by an amide linkage; and

7) -E, wherein E is selected from the group consisting of - (P(O)₃)_nNMP, where n is 0-2 and NMP is a ribonucleotide monophosphate connected via the 5'-phosphate, 3'-phosphate or the aromatic ring of the base; -[P(=O)(OCH₃)(O)]_m-Q, where m is 0-3 and Q is a ribonucleoside connected via the ribose or the aromatic ring of the base; -[P(=O)(OH)(CH₂)]_m-Q, where m is 0-3 and Q is a ribonucleoside connected via the ribose or the aromatic ring of the base; and an aryl group containing 0-3 substituents chose independently from the group consisting of: C₁, Br, epoxy, acetoxy, -OG, -C(=O)G, and -CO=G, where G is independently selected from the group consisting of: C₁-C₆ straight alkyl, C₂-C₆ straight alkenyl, C₁-C₆ straight alkoyl, C₃-C₆ branched alkyl, C₃-C₆ branched alkenyl, C₄-C₆ branched alkoyl; and if E is aryl, E may be connected by an amide linkage;

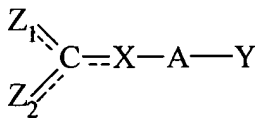
e) if R₁ and at least one R₂ group are present, R₁ may be connected by a single or double bond to an R₂ group to form a cycle of 5 to 7 members;

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COK

f) if two R_2 groups are present, they may be connected by a single or a double bond to form a cycle of 4 to 7 members; and

g) if R_1 is present and Z_1 or Z_2 is selected from the group consisting of - NHR_2 , $-CH_2R_2$ and $-NR_2OH$, then R_1 may be connected by a single or double bond to the carbon or nitrogen of either Z_1 or Z_2 to form a cycle of 4 to 7 members.

23. [Amended] The method of claim 19, wherein said creatine compound has the formula:



and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, wherein:

A
a) Y is selected from the group consisting of: $-CO_2H$, $-NHOH$, $-NO_2$, $-SO_3H$, $-C(=O)NHSO_2J$ and $-P(=O)(OH)(OH)$, wherein J is selected from the group consisting of: hydrogen, C_1 - C_6 straight chain alkyl, C_3 - C_6 branched alkyl, C_2 - C_6 alkenyl, C_3 - C_6 branched alkenyl, and aryl;

b) A is selected from the group consisting of: C, CH, C_1 - C_5 alkyl, C_2 - C_5 alkenyl, C_2 - C_5 alkynyl, and C_1 - C_5 alkoyl chain, each having 0-2 substituents which are selected independently from the group consisting of:

1) K, where K is selected from the group consisting of: C_1 - C_6 straight alkyl, C_2 - C_6 straight alkenyl, C_1 - C_6 straight alkoyl, C_3 - C_6 branched alkyl, C_3 - C_6 branched alkenyl, and C_4 - C_6 branched alkoyl, K having 0-2 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: bromo, chloro, epoxy and acetoxy;

2) an aryl group selected from the group consisting of: a 1-2 ring carbocycle, wherein the aryl group contains 0-2 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: $-CH_2L$ and $-COCH_2L$ where L is independently selected from the group consisting of: bromo, chloro, epoxy and acetoxy; and

3) -NH-M, wherein M is selected from the group consisting of: hydrogen, C₁-C₄ alkyl, C₂-C₄ alkenyl, C₁-C₄ alkoyl, C₃-C₄ branched alkyl, C₃-C₄ branched alkenyl, and C₄ branched alkoyl;

c) X is selected from the group consisting of NR₁, CHR₁, CR₁, O and S, wherein R₁ is selected from the group consisting of:

1) hydrogen;

2) K where K is selected from the group consisting of: C₁-C₆ straight alkyl, C₂-C₆ straight alkenyl, C₁-C₆ straight alkoyl, C₃-C₆ branched alkyl, C₃-C₆ branched alkenyl, and C₄-C₆ branched alkoyl, K having 0-2 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: bromo, chloro, epoxy and acetoxy;

3) an aryl group selected from the group consisting of a 1-2 ring carbocycle, wherein the aryl group contains 0-2 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: -CH₂L and -COCH₂L where L is independently selected from the group consisting of: bromo, chloro, epoxy and acetoxy;

4) a C₅-C₉ a-amino-w-methyl-w-adenosylcarboxylic acid attached via the w-methyl carbon;

5) a C₅-C₉ a-amino-w-aza-w-methyl-w-adenosylcarboxylic acid attached via the w-methyl carbon; and

6) a C₅-C₉ a-amino-w-thia-w-methyl-w-adenosylcarboxylic acid attached via the w-methyl carbon;

d) Z₁ and Z₂ are chosen independently from the group consisting of: =O, -NHR₂, -CH₂R₂, -NR₂OH; wherein Z₁ and Z₂ may not both be =O and wherein R₂ is selected from the group consisting of:

1) hydrogen;

2) K, where K is selected from the group consisting of: C₁-C₆ straight alkyl; C₂-C₆ straight alkenyl, C₁-C₆ straight alkoyl, C₃-C₆ branched alkyl, C₃-C₆ branched alkenyl, and C₄-C₆ branched alkoyl, K having 0-2 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: bromo, chloro, epoxy and acetoxy;

3) an aryl group selected from the group consisting of a 1-2 ring carbocycle, wherein the aryl group contains 0-2 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: -CH₂L and -COCH₂L where L is independently selected from the group consisting of: bromo, chloro, epoxy and acetoxy;

4) a C₄-C₈ α-amino-carboxylic acid attached via the ω-carbon;

5) B, wherein B is selected from the group consisting of: -CO₂H, -NHOH, -SO₃H, -NO₂, OP(=O)(OH)(OJ) and -P(=O)(OH)(OJ), wherein J is selected from the group consisting of: hydrogen, C₁-C₆ straight alkyl, C₃-C₆ branched alkyl, C₂-C₆ alkenyl, C₃-C₆ branched alkenyl, and aryl, wherein B is optionally connected to the nitrogen via a linker selected from the group consisting of: C₁-C₂ alkyl, C₂ alkenyl, and C₁-C₂ alkoyl;

6) -D-E, wherein D is selected from the group consisting of: C₁-C₃ straight alkyl, C₃ branched alkyl, C₂-C₃ straight alkenyl, C₃ branched alkenyl, C₁-C₃ straight alkoyl, aryl and aroyl; and E is selected from the group consisting of: -(P(O)₃)_nNMP, where n is 0-2 and NMP is ribonucleotide monophosphate connected via the 5'-phosphate, 3'-phosphate or the aromatic ring of the base; -[P(=O)(OCH₃)(O)]_m-Q, where m is 0-3 and Q is a ribonucleoside connected via the ribose or the aromatic ring of the base; -[P(=O)(OH)(CH₂)]_m-Q, where m is 0-3 and Q is a ribonucleoside connected via the ribose or the aromatic ring of the base; and an aryl group containing 0-3 substituents chosen independently from the group consisting of: Cl, Br, epoxy, acetoxy, -OG, -C(=O)G, and -CO₂G, where G is independently selected from the group consisting of: C₁-C₆ straight alkyl, C₂-C₆ straight alkenyl, C₁-C₆ straight alkoyl, C₃-C₆ branched alkyl, C₃-C₆ branched alkenyl, C₄-C₆ branched alkoyl, wherein E may be attached to any point to D, and if D is alkyl or alkenyl, D may be connected at either or both ends by an amide linkage; and

7) -E, wherein E is selected from the group consisting of -
(PO₃)_nNMP, where n is 0-2 and NMP is a ribonucleotide monophosphate connected via
the 5'-phosphate, 3'-phosphate or the aromatic ring of the base; -[P(=O)(OCH₃)(O)]_m-Q,
where m is 0-3 and Q is a ribonucleoside connected via the ribose or the aromatic ring of
the base; -[P(=O)(OH)(CH₂)]_m-Q, where m is 0-3 and Q is a ribonucleoside connected
via the ribose or the aromatic ring of the base; and an aryl group containing 0-3
substituents chosen independently from the group consisting of: Cl, Br, epoxy, acetoxy,
-OG, -C(=O)G, and -CO=G, where G is independently selected from the group consisting
of: C₁-C₆ straight alkyl, C₂-C₆ straight alkenyl, C₁-C₆ straight alkoyl, C₃-C₆ branched
alkyl, C₃-C₆ branched alkenyl, C₄-C₆ branched alkoyl; and if E is aryl, E may be
connected by an amide linkage;

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Cont
e) if R₁ and at least one R₂ group are present, R₁ may be connected by a
single or double bond to an R₂ group to form a cycle of 5 to 7 members;

f) if two R₂ groups are present, they may be connected by a single or a
double bond to form a cycle of 4 to 7 members; and

g) if R₁ is present and Z₁ or Z₂ is selected from the group consisting of -
NHR₂, -CH₂R₂ and -NR₂OH, then R₁ may be connected by a single or double bond to the
carbon or nitrogen of either Z₁ or Z₂ to form a cycle of 4 to 7 members.